Tuy, Batangas: Historical Data (from 1960s-1970s)

A November Incident that became Ghost Story

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RURAL MAYOR KILLED?

THE CHURCH OF BALAYAN, ONE OF TUY'S CLOSE TOWNS, WHERE THE FUNERAL WAS HELD

From the Batangas Times, Tuy's 34-old mayor, great in both business, admired his father and hometown.

UT, BATANGAS TIMES, 1970 PAGE 1

The digitalized article shows mayor Olarte Cabral Magboo who was 33 when he was assassinated by a bomb hidden on his gifted telephone, 1973.

TUY, Jul. 12 (UPI) — The municipality was on its incoming election before 1971, campaigning on the first party is none other than former mayor, Pedro Dimapasoc III who served from 1967, choosing again to run as mayor. The opposing party is leaded by Olarte Magboo, or as they called him “Kapitan Larte” or “Ka Ole” for my mother. During this time, the municipality focus on agriculture products, such as sugar cane that were sold in public markets or used in industrial productions.

I remember visiting our mother during christmas time to witness the light stars displayed around the town, especially the church where we attend the “simbang gabi” (night mass) is a tradition in our family and throughout the country.

The election turned into a heated debate between Dimapasoc and Magboo as they were long time rivals in both politics and business. They both have family clans to support them, though I notice Magboo kept being independent, aligning with several cohorts, one is close with the former President Ferdinand Marcos Sr.

SAN PASCUAL, Jul. 20 (UPI) — I remember after leaving Tuy, we head towards the newly municipal of San Pascual, after being independent from Bauan in 1969 after Mr. Leonardo

and Francisco Mendoza rallied the movement in barrio. We stopped by the cemetery to view the grave of the deceased, Felipe Magboo Sr., brother of Francisco, Olarte and Danilo Magboo. Our mother told us that Ka Larte was inspired by his brother's loss to became politician and a public servant.

BATANGAS, Nov. 8 (UPI) — The elections ended after Magboo defeated Dimapasoc for with the most votes and became a newly-elect mayor of Tuy. However the rivalry didn't end as the Dimapasocs tried to file a case against Magboo for fraud and deception during the election. It started on May, 1972 until the provincial governor called to close it on February, 1973 due to the lack of based-evidence and reasoning.

During Magboo's term, the president declared martial law and hold current incumbents on their positions. We watched it be broadcast on our television, it was eerie for me but remembering it felt nostalgic. The locals described Magboo as a strict, nationalist stance and Batangas ally to Marcos during his final years in 1973.

TUY, MUNICIPAL, Nov. 30 (UPI) — On November 30, 1973 when the mayor received a holiday gift for his upcoming birthday the next day, he took it and returned to his vehicle to go back to Tuy. The gifted telephone however was a hidden bomb that exploded when it rang.

Reports from the town spread like wildfire, mayor Magboo was assassinated, alongside the police chief, Francisco Gomez and constabulary, Epifanio Blancaflor. Witness from the surviving constabulary, Daniel Martinez who became the new police chief said, two unidentified men (acting as loyalist) came to the mayor during his visitation at Nasugbu and its early fiesta from late November to Dec. 1-2

The mayor was supposed to go back to Tuy by vehicle, alongside Gomez and Blancaflor until they were killed by the bomb. Terror spread among the town, rumors say that it was the rivalry from Pedro Dimapasoc that caused the incident. The presidency appointed Mariano Morella as acting mayor (for 1 month) before mayor Simbanag were to replace him on December 25, 1973.

Lockdown was declared in Tuy by Simbanag's orders, the incident turned into a ghost story after a long year of strict curfew and military detachment. Old Lolas and locals would tell their kids about obeying orders from authorities or else Ka Larte would appear in their dreams and have bad luck.

In 1988, mayor Simbanag step down after the long dictatorship of the president, though the ghost story still remains from the older generation, until now…

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